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DIGITAL EDITION
SPAWN®
RORY McCONVILLE
CARLO BARBERI
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SPAWN'S UNIVERSE 92 22

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PREVIOUSLY IN *SPAWN*

The Forsaken has had enough of false promises. He is on a rampage to earn back his seat at the side of the Almighty. Meanwhile, unbeknownst to Spawn, Jim Downing is one step closer to gaining the allies he needs to challenge Al's leadership.

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"IT WAS INEVITABLE THAT, AS SOON AS HELL CREATED THEIR NEW BREED OF ELITE SOLDIERS, HEAVEN WOULD BEGIN WORKING ON SOME OF THEIR OWN...
"...CREATED FOR A VERY SPECIFIC PURPOSE. THEN, GOD GAVE US A NAME, ONE THAT SIGNALED THAT PURPOSE: ANTI-SPAWN.
"OTHERS WOULD CALL US REDEEMERS."

"SO MANY OF US HAVE EXISTED THROUGHOUT HISTORY, MORE THAN YOU COULD *POSSIBLY* IMAGINE...

"...BUT IT ALL STARTED WITH *THE FORSAKEN.*

"HEAVEN'S FIRST ATTEMPT AT A SOLDIER.

"HE WAS ALSO ITS FIRST FAILURE."

IN THOSE EARLY DAYS, THE CELESTIAL FORGE HAD NO IDEA HOW DANGEROUS AND POWERFUL ELEMENTAL FIRE WAS.
THEY IMBUED THE FORSAKEN WITH MORE OF ITS POWER THAN ANY REDEEMER SINCE. BUT THAT PROCESS WAS TOO MUCH FOR ONE MIND TO BEAR, AND IT DROVE HIM INSANE.
DISGUSTED BY THAT RESULT, HEAVEN CONSIDERED HIM A DEFORMITY... ONE THAT MIGHT CONTAMINATE THE "PURITY" OF THEIR REALM. SO, HE WAS CAST OUT.
DESPITE THIS, THE FORSAKEN REMAINED A LOYAL HOUND, STALKING EARTH FOR YEARS AS HE CONTINUED BATTLING HELL'S FORCES, HOPING TO WIN BACK GOD'S APPROVAL.
THERE ISN'T MUCH ELSE KNOWN ABOUT HIM. AFTER HIS EXILE, HEAVEN WIPED EVERY TRACE OF HIM FROM THEIR EXISTENCE.
IF HE'S HERE NOW, HE LIKELY CAME THROUGH THE TEAR IN TIME.
DOESN'T SOUND LIKE THE TYPE WHO TAKES PRISONERS.
"AGREED. WHICH MEANS HE'S LIKELY WORKING WITH SOMEONE."
AL? YOU THERE? I THINK I'VE FOUND SOMETHING.
SOMETHING STRANGE SEEMS TO BE GOING ON WITH ONE OF THE SPAWN SIGNALS WE'RE TRACKING.

"I THINK OUR TARGET IS ON THE HUNT AGAIN..."
WE DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS!
WE'RE NOT ENEMIES!
YES, WE ARE.

YOUR CORPSE WILL BE AN OFFERING TO THE ALMIGHTY. AND IF YOUR SOULLESS HUSK ISN'T ENOUGH, I'LL GATHER ANOTHER LIKE YOU.
"AND ANOTHER.
"AND ANOTHER.
"UNTIL THE PILE OF DEAD HELLSPAWN OUTSIDE HEAVEN'S GATES CAN'T BE IGNORED!"
srank

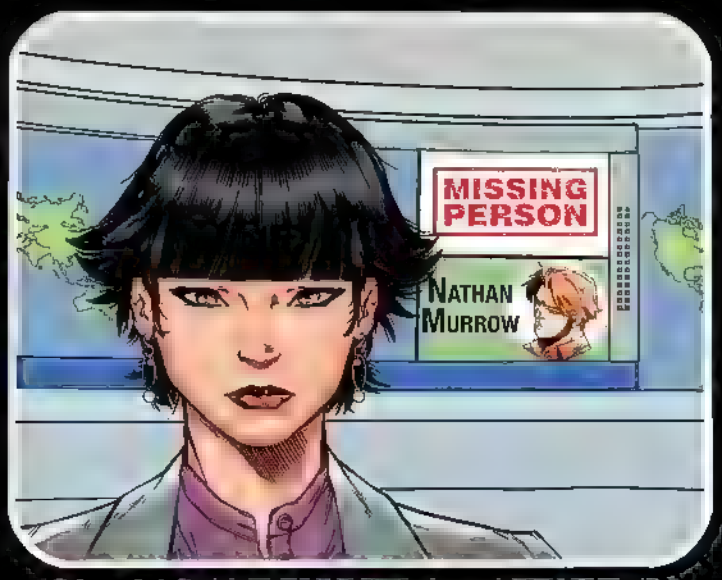
YOU TOUCH HIM AGAIN, YOU'RE DEAD! AND SO ARE THOSE YOU WORK FOR.
I ONLY SERVE LORD GOD AND HIS WILL. NO OTHERS.
BUT I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE, SPAWN, BECAUSE I WAS GOING TO HUNT YOU DOWN ANYWAY.

YOU'VE GOT THIRTY SECONDS! SO, SOMEONE TELL ME, WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?
FINALLY! WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO REACH YOU FOR HOURS. THE FORSAKEN'S GONE AWOL. WE DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED, OR WHY, BUT HE'S BROKEN OUT OF THE FACILITY.
WE'VE ALREADY TRACKED DOWN HIS CURRENT POSITION. PROBLEM IS, SO HAVE SPAWN AND REDEEMER.
THIS IS HAPPENING TOO FAST.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE TRYING TO GET SPAWN'S ATTENTION, THOUGH?
I AM, BUT I DIDN'T WANT A CONFRONTATION THIS QUICKLY. WE NEED MORE TIME TO PREPARE.
I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT THAT. I DOUBT THE FORSAKEN WILL LET HIMSELF BE TAKEN ALIVE.
DOESN'T MATTER, SPAWN NOW HAS SOME POWER OVER THE DEAD. IF HE KILLS HIM, HE MAY STILL BE ABLE TO FIND THE ANSWERS HE NEEDS.
BRING ME THE TELEPATH.

DON'T YOU LIE TO ME!
I SWEAR! IT'S THE TRUTH!
THE POISON YOU'RE INFECTED WITH... HEAVEN'S THE ONLY PLACE YOU CAN FIND A CURE FOR IT!
YOU SURE?
POSITIVE.
THEN I DON'T NEED YOU ANY MORE.
WELL, THAT'S ANOTHER DEAD END.
I HATE THIS!

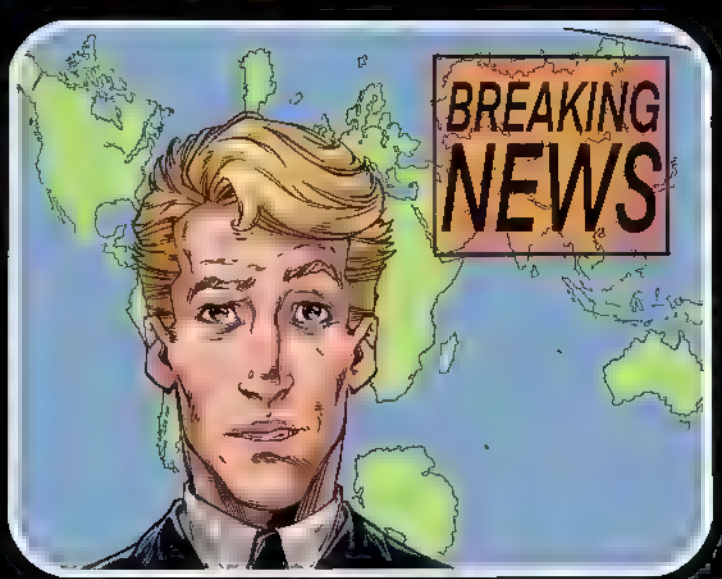
YOU WANT TO GET SERIOUS HERE, OR YOU GOING TO KEEP THROWING YOUR TANTRUM?
GO TO HELL!
DANIEL WE'RE WASTING TIME CHASING AFTER THESE DEAD-END LEADS
THEY KEEP GIVING YOU THE SAME ANSWER BUT NONE OF THEM CAN HELP GET YOU THERE THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY THIS GETS FIXED
WE NEED SIMMONS HE CAN OPEN THE DEAD ZONES
I DON'T WANT TO DEAL WITH SIMMONS UNLESS IT'S
5

THE BRIEFEST OF AIR RUSHING IS THE ONLY INDICATION AN ENEMY IS NEAR
THAT'S A FATAL MISTAKE BY THE ENEMY
HE WANTED TO HURT YOU, DANIEL.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, WHY'RE ARE YOU SNEAKING UP ON US?
BESIDES, I THOUGHT YOU DIED.
I DID. THEN I GOT BETTER.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS.
IT MEANS I THINK I CAN HELP YOU WITH YOUR SITUATION WITH HEAVEN AND SIMMONS.



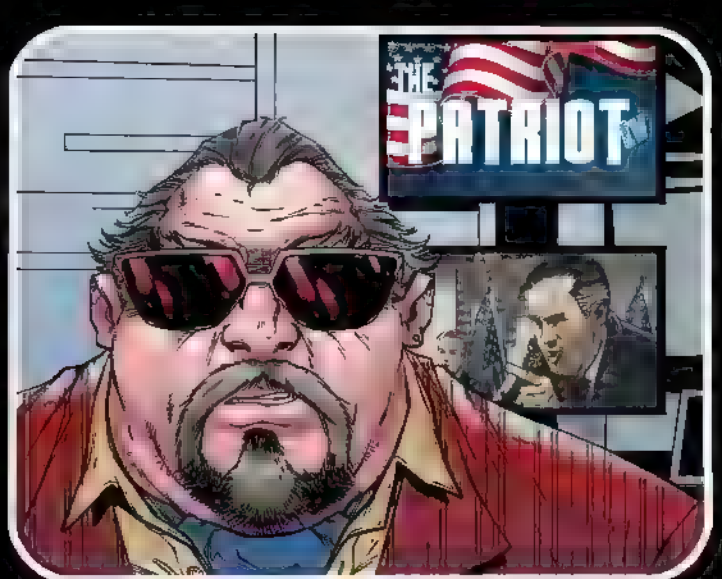
...ELSEWHERE, THE SEARCH CONTINUES FOR NATHAN MURROW, THE 32-YEAR OLD MECHANIC WHO HAS BEEN REPORTED MISSING SINCE YESTERDAY. AUTHORITIES WERE ALERTED TO HIS DISAPPEARANCE WHEN ROBERT BRISCOE, A CHILDHOOD FRIEND OF MR. MURROW'S, INITIALLY SPOKE WITH POLICE ABOUT HIS CONCERNS PERTAINING TO HIS FRIEND.

MR. MURROW HAD BEEN MISSING FOR LESS THAN THE MANDATORY 24 HOURS WHEN POLICE BECAME AWARE OF THIS SITUATION. IT HAS NOW BEEN OVER A DAY AND A HALF, MAKING IT AN OFFICIAL 'MISSING PERSONS' CASE.



SOURCES ALSO SAID POLICE WERE TAKEN ***OFF GUARD*** BY MR. BRISCOE'S INSISTENT CLAIM THAT MR. MURROW HAD SOMEHOW BEEN ***"TRANSFORMED"*** INTO THE TERRORIST RESPONSIBLE FOR LAST WEEK'S ***HORRIFIC*** RAMPAGE. IN ADDITION, MR. BRISCOE SAYS HE NOW FEARS THAT ***OTHERS*** COULD BE CONVERTED AS WELL.

HOWEVER, AFTER AN INITIAL PERIOD OF ***INVESTIGATION,*** WE NOW UNDERSTAND THAT POLICE HAVE RULED THIS OUT AS A POSSIBILITY, CITING DOUBTS ABOUT MR. BRISCOE'S ***MENTAL STATE.*** THE FOCUS OF THE INVESTIGATION HAS NOW SHIFTED TO WHETHER MR. BRISCOE ***HIMSELF*** MAY SOMEHOW HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN MR. MURROW'S DISAPPEARANCE.



IT'S ALL B.S.!! ***ALL*** OF IT! ***BUT...*** SHOULD ANY OF US BE ***SURPRISED*** THESE DAYS? SENATOR RAWLINS WASN'T VERY POPULAR AMONG THE WASHINGTON ELITES EITHER. AND WE ***ALL SAW*** WHAT HAPPENED TO ***HIM!*** CHRIST, WHO KNOWS HOW MANY PEOPLE FROM THE ***DEEP STATE*** ARE OUT THERE... WAITING TO BE ACTIVATED... AT A ***MOMENT'S*** NOTICE?

IS IT POSSIBLE ***WE*** COULD ALL BE "TRANSFORMED" ***TOO?!*** IF YOU'RE CONCERNED AND YOU THINK THERE'S A ***CHANCE*** YOU'VE BECOME THE DEEP STATE'S NEXT MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE--***AND WE ALL SHOULD BE!***--MY SOURCES SAID THE BEST WAY TO DETERMINE IF ***YOU'VE*** BEEN TURNED INTO THEIR USEFUL ZOMBIE IS TO...

AS SPAWN AND REDEEMER CONTINUE THEIR ASSAULT ON FORSAKEN, RADIO CONTACT IS MAINTAINED WITH HOME BASE
AL, IF YOU CAN HEAR ME...
ANOTHER BATCH OF SIGNALS JUST POPPED UP ON MY SCANNERS. THEY'RE HEADING YOUR WAY!
HOW MANY ARE THERE?
CAN'T TELL, JUST GET THE HELL OUT OF THERE, NOW!
CRAKK

TOO LATE
STAND ASIDE, HELLSPAWN.
WE'VE COME TO EXTRACT THE FORSAKEN.

IN TIME, AI WILL LEARN THE NAMES OF THESE INTRUDERS. THE BIG ONE IS CENTURION SPAWN. HIS MASS SCALES WITH OVERKILL'S
HIS JOB IS LITERALLY TO CLEAR A PATHWAY!
WHILE THE OTHERS COLLECT THEIR TARGET
UP. WE'VE COME TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE.
UNHARMED.
BAP
GET YOUR FILTHY HANDS OFF OF ME!
I'D SOONER DIE THAN FLEE WITH SCUM LIKE YOU.
I'LL NEVER BE A TRAITOR LIKE THIS REDEEMER IS!

GO AHEAD, KEEP DELUDING YOURSELF.
KEEP TELLING YOURSELF A TRAITOR IS ONE WHO ***WON'T KILL*** INNOCENT WOMEN AND CHILDREN JUST TO SERVE THE EGO.
REMEMBER AGARTHA? GOD NEEDED YOU OUT OF HIS SIGHT FOR A REASON.
LIAR!
I WAS BETRAYED-- ***BY ALL OF YOU!*** NOW YOU'RE DOING IT TO GOD!
NO ONE WHO WEARS THAT ARMOR WOULD EVER FIGHT ALONGSIDE HELLSPAWNS!
THEN WHY ARE THEY HERE?! YOU THINK...
IT'S BECAUSE OF YOUR PURITY? ***NO!*** THEY'RE HERE FOR ONE REASON!
THEY THINK YOU'RE JUST LIKE THEM! THAT HELL CAN MAKE YOU THEIR USEFUL SOLDIER!

YOU'RE WRONG! THEY'RE HERE FOR THE SAME REASON YOU ARE, BECAUSE YOU'RE ALL AFRAID! AFRAID THAT I WAS CALLED HERE ON A MISSION FROM GOD!
FOOL! YOU'RE HERE BY CHANCE, BROUGHT BY A HELLSPAWN! ANYONE TELLS YOU OTHERWISE, THEY'RE LYING!
YOU SPENT YOUR WHOLE LIFE AT HEAVEN'S COMMAND, GAVE THEM EVERY-THING!
HOW DID THEY REWARD YOUR LOYALTY?
WHATEVER GOD YOU SERVED FELL MILLENNIA AGO, REPLACED TEN TIMES OVER. YOU'RE CHASING AFTER A DEAD MASTER!
HOW DID THEY REPAY THAT DEVOTION??

BY DESTROYING YOU.
IT WASN'T ENOUGH TO JUST BANISH YOU. GOD WAS SO REPULSED BY YOU HE SENT AN ARMY TO DESTROY YOU. REMEMBER THAT?
HOW THEY HUNTED YOU LIKE A DOG DEFEATING YOU WITH THEIR SHEER NUMBERS!
HUMILIATION, THAT'S WHAT GOD WANTED FROM YOU. AND HE GOT THAT!
SO, WHETHER YOU THINK I'M A TRAITOR OR NOT, WE HAVE THE SAME ELEMENTAL FIRE COURSING THROUGH OUR VEINS. THE FLAME THAT HOLDS THE EXPERIENCES OF ALL REDEEMERS.
AND WITH IT, IT'S TIME YOU SAW THE TRUTH.
ARGGGGHH

HUNDREDS OF IMAGES FLASH ACROSS HIS MIND IN A SPLIT SECOND
DO YOU UNDERSTAND? DO YOU SEE IT, NOW?
NO. THIS... CANNOT BE.
IT CAN'T.
HIS BRAIN SCREAMS ONE WORD: CORDELIA
FWOOM
IT SEEMS THE CRISIS HAS BEEN AVERTED. EVERYONE, FORSAKEN IS LEAVING THE COMBAT ZONE. HE'S HEADING IN OUR DIRECTION AT HYPER-SPEED.

WHY WOULD HE COME BACK HERE? YOU THINK THE HELLSPAWNS WERE ABLE TO TALK SOME SENSE INTO HIM?
ARE YOU KIDDING, IS THAT WHAT YOU ACTUALLY THINK? YOU'RE A F*CKING IDIOT!
BOSS, WHAT IS IT? WHAT'D I SAY?
HE'S NOT COMING TO REJOIN US...
"HE'S COMING TO KILL US!"

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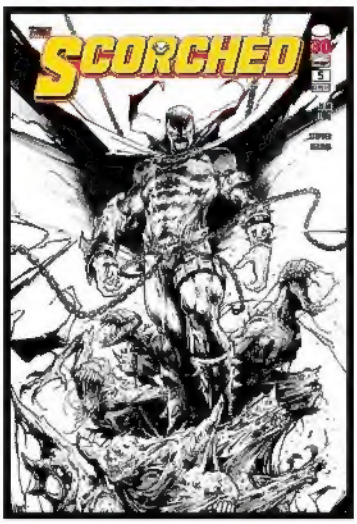
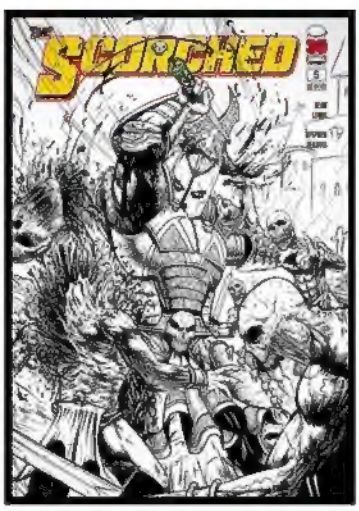
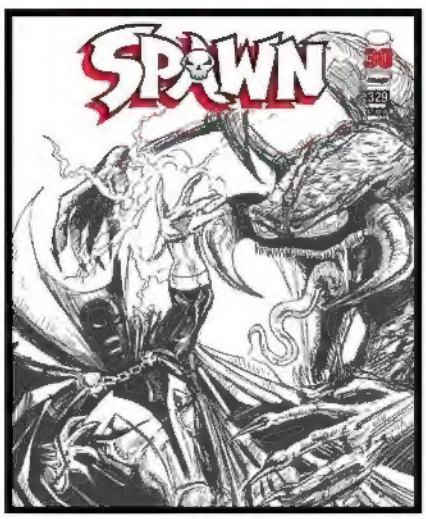
SPAWNING GROUND

PRESENTS:

FAN ART
SKETCH COVERS







Do you have a question or comment about Spawn? If so, e-mail it to us at:
spawninggground@mcfarlane.com

NEED MORE SPAWN'S UNIVERSE?

DON'T MISS THESE TITLES:

SPAWN

KING SPAWN

THE SCORCHED

GUNSLINGER SPAWN

ONGOING NOW!

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